

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 16 2007

**VESUVIUS USA
RIDC PARK WEST
250 PARK WEST DRIVE
PITTSBURGH, PA 15275
(412) 429-1800 FAX: (412) 429-3448**

Total Pages: 7
(Including cover)

**TO : Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

FAX : 571-273-8300

ART UNIT : 1725

EXAMINER : LEN TRAN

FROM : Thomas Dunford – Vesuvius CR - Legal Dept.

DATE : April 6, 2007

**SUBJECT : AMENDMENT REPLY FOR
US APPLICATION NO.: 10/565,480
FILED: JANUARY 20, 2006
INVENTOR: MUTSAARTS
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 1446 US**

The following documents are being transmitted herewith as an AMENDMENT REPLY to the USPTO Office Action dated 2/23/2007 for the subject U.S. Patent Application:

-1 PAGE - FAX COVER SHEET

-1 PAGE - TRANSMITTAL FORM (PTO/SB/21) WITH CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

-5 PAGES - AMENDMENT REPLY DOCUMENTS

Respectfully,

Thomas C. Dunford
Vesuvius Crucible Legal Department

This communication is intended for the use of the addressee(s) so named above and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient(s), please note that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify this office immediately by telephone (collect) and return the original message to us at the above address via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**TRANSMITTAL
FORM***(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

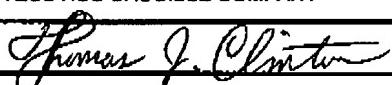
Application Number	10/565,480
Filing Date	January 20, 2006
First Named Inventor	MUTSAARTS
Art Unit	1725
Examiner Name	TRAN, LEN
Attorney Docket Number	1446 US

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
APR 16 2007

6

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

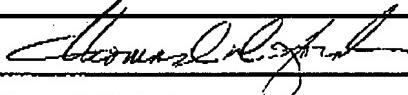
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	VESUVIUS CRUCIBLE COMPANY		
Signature			
Printed name	Thomas J. Clinton		
Date	APRIL 16, 2007	Reg. No.	40,561

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature



Typed or printed name

Thomas C. Dunford

Date APRIL 16, 2007

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Apr. 16. 2007 1:25PM

No. 9943 P. 3

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APR 16 2007

In re Application of	MUTSAARTS
Title	METHOD OF DETERMINING REUSE OR DISPOSAL OF A REFRACTORY PLATE AND DEVICE THEREFOR
Serial Number	10/565,480
Filing Date	20 Jan 2006
Art Unit	1725
Examiner	Len Tran
Attorney Docket No.	1446 US

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

To: Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action mailed 23 February 2007, Applicant requests early and favorable action on pending claims 12-22.